(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, while only one Central University, namely, Pondicherry University, has a separate Tamil Department, Tamil is taught as a subject in six Central Universities — Pondicherry University, Aligarh Muslim University, Banaras Hindu University, University of Delhi, University of Hyderabad and Visva Bharati.

No proposal from any central University seeking establishment of a separate Tamil Department therein has been received for obtaining necessary approval of the Visitor in terms of the statutory provisions in this behalf.

UGC Assistance for women's hostels

3306. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UGC has a scheme to fund and finance women's hostels and other facilities so as to encourage women to obtain university education;

(b) if so, the details of the funds released by UGC in 2004-05 to finance women's hostels;

(c) the details of the funds given to the universities and colleges in Andhra Pradesh in 2004-05 for the specific purpose of funding women's hostels; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government to increase funding for construction of women's hostels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The UGC has a Scheme titled as "Construction of Women's Hostel" in universities and colleges.

(b) According to information furnished by the UGC, during the year 2004-05, an amount of Rs. 2020.56 lakhs has been released by the UGC for construction of Women's Hostels.

(c) During the year 2004-05, an amount of Rs. 40.00 lakhs has been given to four Universities in Andhra Pradesh and an amount of Rs. 82.32 lakhs has been given to Colleges in the State.

(d) UGC has increased its share from 60% to 100% for construction of Women Hostels during the current Plan with a view to promoting Women's participation in higher education.

Standing Committee for women studies

3307. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have constituted a Standing Committee to go into the studies dealing with women in the universities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this Standing Committee would be a permanent body with a definite tenure;

(c) if so, whether its Members and Chairperson would get salaries, housing facilities, etc. for a fixed tenure;

(d) the details of the expenditure which would be incurred on this Committee;

(e) whether any cost-benefit study been done about the utility of this Committee; and

(f) if so, steps proposed to review the need of this Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has constituted a Standing Committee to go into the working of Women's Studies on a continuing basis and to submit periodic reports to the UGC.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) This is an Expert Committee which will have its meetings as and when required. Expenditure would be incurred on TA/DA/Honorarium to the Members in connection with the meetings.